

International Baccalaureate 2017 Summer Calendar

Schools

**Prince George's County Public
Office of Academic Programs
Department of Curriculum and
Instruction**



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Welcome to the International Baccalaureate Programme!

Congratulations on your decision to become an International Baccalaureate (IB) student. The IB Programme is an academically challenging and balanced program of education with final examinations that prepares students for success at university and life beyond. It has been designed to address the intellectual, social, emotional, and physical well-being of students. The program has gained recognition and respect from the world's leading universities.

As one of more than 1 million IB students worldwide, you can visit the [IBO](http://www.ibo.org/en/benefits/benefits-for-students/) website (<http://www.ibo.org/en/benefits/benefits-for-students/>) for some shortcuts to information that is relevant to you while you are studying within an IB program. Your school's IB Coordinator is another source of information relevant to students and parents regarding IB.

The International Baccalaureate® (IB) chooses to define "international education" according to the following criteria:

- Developing citizens of the world in relation to culture, language, and learning to live together.
- Building and reinforcing students' sense of identity and cultural awareness.
- Fostering students' recognition and development of universal human values.
- Stimulating curiosity and inquiry in order to foster a spirit of discovery and enjoyment of learning.
- Equipping students with the skills to learn and acquire knowledge, individually or collaboratively, and to apply these skills and knowledge accordingly across a broad range of areas.
- Providing international content while responding to local requirements and interests.
- Encouraging diversity and flexibility in teaching methods.
- Providing appropriate forms of assessment and international benchmarking.

This summer calendar has been constructed to prepare you for this new and challenging area in your high school career. If followed correctly, you will learn more about your learning style, how to manage your time, critical reading and thinking skills, test taking strategies, college information, and information about the specific IB courses and exams you will take. IB is a great opportunity to experience the rigor of a college coursework in

a high school setting. The successful completion of the IB Diploma Programme has benefits during both the college application process and undergraduate life.

International Baccalaureate Summer Calendar

	Topic	Assignment	Website
Step 1	Introduction to IB	Explore the student pages of the IB website. Why did you choose to be an IB student? What is the IB Learner Profile? What are the challenges you believe you will face as an IB student?	http://www.ibo.org/en/benefits/benefits-for-students/
Step 2	Learning Styles	Discover your learning style.	http://www.personal.psu.edu/bxb11/LSI/LSI.htm
Step 3	Time Management	Learn some time management skills.	http://www.dartmouth.edu/~acskills/success/time.html http://guides.frederick.edu/studyskills

	Topic	Assignment	Website
Step 4	Patriotism	What are the duties and responsibilities of citizenship?	http://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/learners/citizenship-rights-and-responsibilities
Step 5	Critical Reading and Thinking	Thinking Critically about Information on the Internet. What is the purpose of the site? How valuable or useful is the site or item?	http://www.msca.org/?page=Article0002
Step 6	Writing	How do you feel when it is time to write?	http://writing-program.uchicago.edu/resources/collegewriting/
Step 7	Study Skills	How do you study?	http://dus.psu.edu/academicsuccess/studyskills.html
Step 8	Test Taking Strategies	What do you do when it is test time?	http://www.loyola.edu/departments/thestudy/studyskills/resources.aspx

	Topic	Assignment	Website
Step 9	College Prep	What are you looking for?	http://www.campusexplorer.com/college-advice-tips/BCF1A04A/High-School-Freshman-Timeline-and-Checklist/
Step 10	College Tour	Maximizing the College Tour	http://www.usnews.com/education/blogs/the-college-solution/2011/03/15/7-tips-to-get-the-most-out-of-college-tours_





Step 1

Topic: Introduction to International Baccalaureate

Introduction: A great tool for all IB students is the IB Learner Profile. Go to the IB website and download the **IB Learner Profile** (<http://www.ibo.org/en/benefits/learner-profile/>).

Assignment: You have decided to be an IB student! In order for you to be successful, think about why you are in the program, what motivated you, and do you know the benefits. Write down in a journal (paper or online) 5 reasons why you submitted an application to be in the program. Explain which of the “learner profile attributes” best describes you as a person, and which one is your weakest? What kind of preparation have you completed to get yourself ready to be successful in IB? After completing your

responses, visit the following website: <http://www.ibo.org/en/benefits/benefits-for-students/>.



Step 2

Topic: Learning Styles

Introduction: Many students struggle with study skills. A learning style is a way in which people learn best. Everyone has a mix of learning styles. Some people may find that they have a dominant style of learning, with far less use of the other styles. Before you can concentrate on how to study, you must discover your personal learning style.

Assignment: Go to this website and take the learning style inventory to determine what your personal learning style is: <http://www.personal.psu.edu/bxb11/LSI/LSI.htm>. The website you just visited will tell you whether you are a visual, auditory, or tactile learner. Each of these in turn has specific types of studying skills that would suit you best (to be discussed on a future lesson).

Record your learning style in your journal. Were you surprised or did it just confirm what you already knew? Record your responses in your journal. How is your learning style reflected in your learner profile?



Step 3

Topic: Time Management

Assignment: Everybody at one time or another has problems with managing their time. Managing your time wisely is a skill that you must have on the very first day. It is highly recommended to keep a planner or daily agenda book of all your assignments. If you want to print one out or keep the planner online, this is a good resource:

<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~acskills/success/time.html>.

Go to this website: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-started/inside-the-classroom/8-ways-to-take-control-of-your-time>. Write in your journal the 8 ways to take control of your time and a description of each item. What items from the website you can accomplish this summer, so you will have the skills when you start school in the fall?

The second part is taking control of homework. (<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-started/inside-the-classroom/take-control-of-homework>) Write the 10 ways in your journal. Which ones do you do already? Which ones were surprises?



Step 4

Topic: Patriotism

Celebrate the USA! Celebrate You! During this time, visit a museum or an historical site. (You may take a virtual tour: <http://2k.si.edu> or <http://www.digitalvaults.org>.) What does it mean to be a citizen of a country? What are the rights and privileges of being a citizen? What are the duties and obligations? Write in your journal your reflections on being a citizen.



Step 5

Topic: Critical Reading and Thinking

Introduction: The ability to think creatively and critically helps you succeed in IB courses. Critical thinking underlies reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Skilled students, prepared to succeed in an IB course, are critical thinkers. They distinguish between opinion and fact. They ask probing questions and make detailed observations. They uncover assumptions and define their terms. They make assertions carefully, basing them on sound logic and solid evidence. Although human beings are said to be rational creatures, no one is born a critical thinker. This is a learned skill. Use this assignment to empower the master student who lives inside you.

Assignment:

Go to <http://www.msca.org/?page=Article0002>. This website gives you information on how to think critically about everything you see online.

Go to <http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/library/modules/Judge/CLThinkWeb20.pdf> and read the article, "Thinking Critically about Web 2.0 and Beyond." Practice these new skills by evaluating popular search sites.

Access several search sites on the web, like Google, Bing, and Yahoo. Then choose a specific topic that you like to research – preferably one related to a paper or other assignment that you will complete for an IB course. Use the criteria outlined in the article

to evaluate the search sites by comparing the results that you got. Based on your evaluation, keep a list of your favorite search sites that you can use in your IB courses.



Step 6

Topic: Writing

Introduction: Your communication abilities include listening, speaking, and writing skills. Becoming an effective writer is a critical communication skill important to your success in IB courses. Developing such skills is a constant challenge for most students, yet with practice you can overcome many of the difficulties inherent in effective writing. Use this assignment to enhance your writing skills, laying a foundation for future academic success. Even though the following assignment lays out a step-by-step process, remember that writing is highly personal.

Assignment:

How do you feel when it is time to write? Many students suffer from anxiety when asked to complete writing assignments. Some people go as far as to avoid writing. As with any anxiety, you can approach writing anxiety by accepting it fully. Begin by telling the truth. In your journal, describe exactly what happens when you start to write. What images or thoughts run through your mind? Do you feel any tension or discomfort in your body? Let the images come to the surface without resistance.

Now you have confronted your feelings about writing, it is time to equip yourself with writing strategies that will help alleviate the stress of writing by enhancing your writing skills.

Go to <http://writing-program.uchicago.edu/undergrads/wic1highschool>. This website is a short guide to college writing that outlines critical difference between high school and college writing. Consider what your teachers may expect from you as you complete various writing assignments.

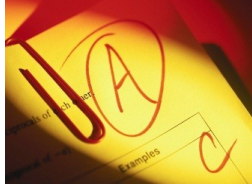
Step 7

Topic: Study Skills

Introduction: You are ready to enter into an IB course and effective studying is very important. Studying for some does not come easy. The important thing is to identify your strengths and weaknesses, and work on improving your weaknesses before the course starts.

Assignment: Go to http://www.ucc.vt.edu/academic_support_students/study_skills_information/study_skills_checklist/ and take the study skills checklist in your journal. Write your areas of strength and weakness in your journal.

Now go to <http://dus.psu.edu/academicsuccess/studyskills.html>. Read the sections of the website related to where are you most weak. Write tips in your journal to help with your weaknesses. Think about how you can use this information during your IB classes.



Step 8

Topic: Test Taking Strategies

Introduction: Whether you're a high school or college student, tests are unavoidable. If you take a multiple-choice exam, your strategy will be different than if you were to take an essay test. Learning proper note taking, studying, and test taking strategies are a vital part of improving your grade on exams as well as your academic success.

Assignment: Think about how you feel when it is test taking time. Make a list in your journal describing how you feel when testing, and what you do. After the journaling, take a moment to compare your list with Loyola University's study skills resources: <http://www.loyola.edu/departments/thestudy/studyskills/resources.aspx>. Start to think about how these strategies will prepare you for IB exams.

Go to <http://www.ibo.org/en/programmes/diploma-programme/assessment-and-exams/sample-exam-papers/> and download some sample IB exams. See what is expected on the IB exams. Take a look at some sample questions for the course(s) you will be taking. This will give you a better understanding of the types of questions that are asked on IB exams.

True	False	True	False	True	False	True	False
☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☒

Step 9

Topic: College Prep

Introduction: Many factors will likely enter into your college decision making, such as location, majors and academics, tuition, student life, sports, campus housing, and college ratings. For all the factors, take the time to explore your options and determine what you really want. The information below can help you find the best fit.

Assignment: Use the chart below to think about what you want in a college.

Things to look for	What do you want?
1. Location	
2. Extracurricular activities	
3. Social life	
4. Class size	
5. Academic programs offered	
6. Technology	

These are just a few things to look for. Add to the list and make sure not to leave out anything that you are looking for in a college.

Visit

http://www.selectingcolleges.com/home/col/page_178/what_to_look_for_in_a_college_visit.html and look at any factors you may have left out. When you begin your college search, remember to think about what you are looking for when you make your final decision. Visit <http://www.ibo.org/en/university-admission/> to review the link to an IB Diploma and success in college. Also, you can review a list of colleges and universities that recognize the IB Diploma.

Step 10

Topic: College Tour

Introduction: You are off to a great start. You have taken the time to consider what you want in a college. Now it is time to develop a plan for getting the most out of each visit to the college and universities you are considering. As a college-bound student, it is important to carefully consider where you will attend once successfully completing high school. Going on a college tour will help you move beyond the facts printed in a brochure to a personal experience with colleges of your choice.

Assignment: Visit a college in our very own Prince George's County.



Bowie State University

www.bowiestate.edu/

Address: 14000 Jericho Park Rd
Springfield Rd

Bowie, MD 20715

Phone: 301-860-4000

Capitol College

www.capitol-college.edu

Address: 11301

Laurel, MD 20708

Phone: 800-879-3821

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